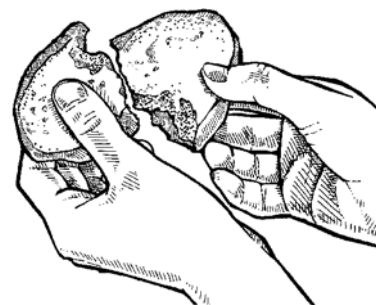


BREAKING BREAD

Good Shepherd Catholic Church



“God Is Dead”

by Deacon Sandy Sites

Some of us can remember this attention getting headline on the cover of Time magazine. Numerous sightings at Good Shepherd however prove the headline wrong. Many here are reporting that they have had an experience of God.

Two years ago, as the five year journey called Destination Justice was coming to an end, the question being asked around Good Shepherd was ... “what’s next”? Having rekindled the parish passion and commitment to social justice, Fr. Mich, Parish Council, Staff, and other contributors, felt that the community was ready to reflect on how God reveals Godself in and around us. From these roots came our focus for the past two years: Experience of God.

You probably remember some of the activities. Pre-mass witnesses were given sharing how some have recognized an experience of God in their lives. Nature walks, concerts and museum visits were organized allowing us to immerse ourselves in the beauty of the work of God’s hand in creation and the arts. Retreats allowed us to pray, reflect and contem-

“We will gather around our own symbolic burning bush, (a good old fashioned fall bon-fire in this case), to pray, sing, eat, share fellowship, and contemplate God in our very midst.”

plate how God moves in our lives. Numerous multi-cultural activities pushed us to a better awareness that all peoples in every land experience God. Creative approaches to our liturgies invited us to consider anew the experience of God in scripture and our communal celebration of the Eucharist.

Made possible by Fr. Mich’s willingness to turn his personal sabbatical time into a meaningful parish activity, and funded by a grant from the Lilly Foundation, a highlight of our focus came from our virtual connection with Ken as he visited sacred places all over the world. A map and images of the countries he visited, posted in Daniels Hall, allowed us all to be there with him on each leg of the journey.

“From the time of the revelation to Moses in the burning bush to tomorrow’s sunset – God touches the human heart and soul.”
(from the Experience of God Focus Statement).

Our two year focus is coming to an end. The previous quote has provided inspiration for a powerful closing event. We will gather around our own symbolic burning bush, (a good old fashioned fall bon-fire in this case), to pray, sing, eat, share fellowship, and contemplate God in our very midst.

During the weekend before the big event, each family will be invited to take a piece of wood – “fuel for the fire”. Families are then invited to contemplate a saying, phrase or experience of God from their lives that they would want to contribute to a communal offering. On the evening of the event, around sunset, each family will be invited to bring their contribution and offer it up as fuel for the bonfire. Joined with all the other families offerings, our hearts and minds will be lifted up to God through the rising flame and smoke.

Experience of God Event

Saturday October 17

Immediately following the 4:30 Mass

Join us in the field to the north of our building.

Bring chairs, sticks or utensils for roasting marshmallows. Your “fuel for the fire”.



The Man Behind the Name

by Mary Ann Erdtmann

Our Good Shepherd community has had a sister parish relationship with the Ellacuria community for 20 years. Have you ever wondered how it got its name?

Ellacuria is actually named after Fr. Ignacio Ellacuria, a Jesuit priest, who was president of the University of Central America in El Salvador's capitol city, San Salvador. He was one of six Jesuit priests, their housekeeper and her daughter, who were murdered in the garden outside their home on the night of Nov. 16, 1989.

In 2005, as part of our parish delegation to Ellacuria, I had the privilege to visit that garden, which is now a rose garden. The names of the six martyrs are inscribed on a large plaque there. It was a very moving sight for me as I stood in silence and reflected on the tremendous

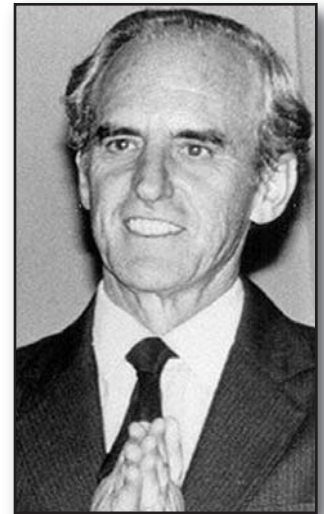
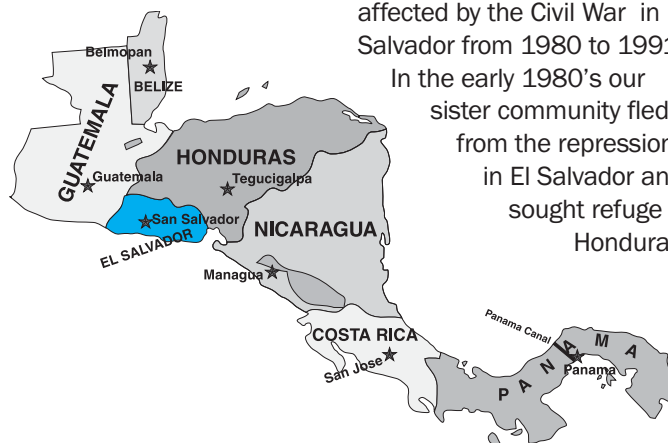
courage of the martyrs in their final moments in that garden.

Born in Spain, Nov. 9, 1930, Fr. Ellacuria joined the Jesuits in 1947 and came to El Salvador the following year. He worked there until his death, except for periods of study in Ecuador, Austria and Spain. He also taught at the University of Central America (UCA) and became its president in 1979.

Fr. Ellacuria was a strong supporter and contributor to Liberation Theology, which focuses on liberating the oppressed in order to "reach the fullness of humanity." His commitment to his ideas met strong opposition from the conservative religious and political forces in El Salvador, leading to his murder by the Salvadoran army.

It is this man that our sister community honors by taking his name. The community of Ellacuria was affected by the Civil War in El Salvador from 1980 to 1991.

In the early 1980's our sister community fled from the repression in El Salvador and sought refuge in Honduras.



Fr. Ignacio Ellacuria

More than one million Salvadorans were forced to abandon their homes during the war.

They returned to their village in October, 1989. It is the 20th anniversary of their return that the Ellacuria community is celebrating in October. Five members of Good Shepherd will attend that celebration. They are Chuck and Judy Koenings, Sharon and Heather Dall, and Tom Dueppen. We are also celebrating our 20th year of our sister parish relationship with Ellacuria.

We look forward to many more years of solidarity with them, honoring their name-sake: Fr. Ignacio Ellacuria.

“Ellacuria is actually named after Fr. Ignacio Ellacuria, a Jesuit priest, who was president of the University of Central America in El Salvador’s capitol city, San Salvador. He was one of six Jesuit priests, their housekeeper and her daughter, who were murdered in the garden outside their home on the night of Nov. 16, 1989.”



Sophia

At the request of the community Directiva of Ellacuria, our parish Central America study committee has sent \$675 to Ellacuria for medical tests for Sophia Daniela Majia Cerritos, 5 years old, who was born with a hole in her heart. These tests are a necessary preliminary to surgery she needs to repair her heart. She needs to travel to a hospital in San Salvador for these tests. We'll keep you posted on her tests and her needed surgery. Please keep Sophia and her family in your prayers.

Parish Corn Roast 2009



Although the weather was cool, it didn't rain, so the annual Good Shepherd Corn Roast was held outside on the parish grounds August 22. The event started with a celebrative liturgy and continued on with wonderful food, games, live band music and clowns. There was great attendance this year!



Our new Director of Youth Ministry, Suzanne Foster (standing far right) hit the ground running at Good Shepherd, organizing an end-of-summer trip for youth to Six Flags Great America on August 24, within a week of starting her ministry. A wonderful time was had by all. Look for more activities in the months to come, and certainly look for another trip to Great America!



**Youth Trip to
GREAT AMERICA!**

August 2, 2009 Pastoral Council Minutes

MEET OUR Pastoral Council



Eric Bloedorn

Jane Clare Ishiguro provided the council with an update on several current adult Christian formation opportunities including Pentecost Mission: basic adult religious education series and Certificates in Lay Ministries both currently offered at Cardinal Stritch University. The ENCF will pay the tuition for parish members interested in either program.

Fiscal year 2008/09 ended with a surplus. The parish-wide financial communication previously published was reviewed.

Mary Oswald had previously forwarded a parishioner inquiry regarding the Christian Formation Commission. This commission has agreed to reinstate regular meetings starting this month.

Vivian Hughes shared information about the Discernment committee, which is responsible for new council member discern-

ment and orientation. Additional council members are encouraged to sign up for and work with this committee.

A written procedure for requesting/approving expenditures of the funds raised through Faith In Our Future was previously distributed to the council. In summary, each of the commissions associated with a FIOF focus area will be responsible for identifying and prioritizing specific expenditures (Christian Formation: faith formation/education; Human Concerns: outreach; Prayer and Worship: liturgy and music). Expenditures totaling less than \$500 in a calendar quarter require no further approval, but will be reported on quarterly to the council. Expenditures in excess of \$500 will be submitted to the council for review/approval. The council will limit its review to ensuring

that the initiative is in line with the FIOF objective and not weigh in on priorities. Specific initiatives or suggestions should be addressed directly with the respective commission.

The Prayer and Worship Commission forwarded a FIOF expenditure request to supplement the mass with an alternate presider in an effort to bring additional perspective and interest to the liturgy. This request was unanimously approved.

Council discussed a proposal to improve the visibility and accessibility of the council across the parish. The proposal was modified to include council representation after masses during hospitality once a month and to include a suggestion box for parish members to provide feedback.



Good Shepherd Reaching Out

By Jane Clare Ishiguro

The Outreach Committee, on your behalf, has reviewed and evaluated requests from the following groups and decided the amount of our donation for this quarter.

To **WISDOM Immigration Initiative - \$1500**. This group is a statewide network of congregations working on justice issues. They have been working on immigration issues for 6 years - both local and national - working toward comprehensive immigration reform and the empowerment of immigrants. This specific request was to help fund a coalition to get drivers cards for immigrants.

To **Global Partners Running Waters - \$2000**. This organization works on building relationships through

collaboration on water, food, and health projects in Latin America. This specific request is for money to help build a vocation school in Aqua Tibia, Guatemala. For more information, go to www.ssnd-milw.org/gprw.htm.

To **Fund for Prisoners - \$500**. This fund provides Benetvision (which catalogs the writings of Sr. Joan Chittister and others) materials to prison chaplains for their ministry. The publications are used for classes, individual reflection, prayer, group discussions and retreats. This fund depends solely on support from individual donations. For more, go to www.benetvision.org.

To **Food for the Hungry - \$500**. This local group, in

their 7th year of operation, gets unsold bread from places like Brownberry, Sara Lee, etc, makes sandwiches and delivers them to the poor. Some of the places that receive the food are parishes in the inner city, Guest House, and Repairers of the Breach.

Groups that we will be considered next for outreach donations are: the Peacemaking Group at Marquette, Casa Guadalupe and Special Olympics.

You are most welcome to call either Barb Messerknecht, Outreach Coordinator, or Jane Clare Ishiguro, liaison to the committee, with any questions or suggestions for outreach funding that you might have.

Quarterly Donation

- **WISDOM Immigration Initiative \$1500**
- **Global Partners Running Waters \$2000**
- **Fund for Prisoners \$500**
- **Food for the Hungry \$500**

ED GEIGER: Loafing Around At Good Shepherd

by Meriel Christensen

On the third Wednesday of each month Good Shepherd's kitchen smells like one of Mom's best home cooked meals. One hundred or so parishioners bring in their donation for St. Ben's meal program. On these days there are about 35 meat loaves waiting to go downtown. For the past 20 years our own Ed Geiger has been faithfully packing the food for the drivers who will deliver it. Before that time the food was taken to Bibi Tristani's home. When she moved Fr. Paul asked Ed to take over. Ed agreed to give it a try. Ed's life has not been the same since. He is in love with this ministry.

At 2:00 p.m. on the third Wednesday of the month Ed, with the aid of our most helpful custodian, reheats any cold meat loaves. They are packed into Styrofoam boxes with those that are delivered warm. Next is the "jello dump". All the jello (red

only), is dumped into five gallon food grade buckets for easier shipping. Bars and cookies are the dessert of choice. At 3:30 the meat is out of the oven and at 3:50 it is on its way to St. Ben's where people are already getting in line.

Ed remembers a night, years ago, when there was a power outage in downtown Milwaukee. He expected St. Ben's to close. But to his great surprise, a candle was put on every table and the meal continued. All were overwhelmed with

.....
"For the past 20 years
our own Ed Geiger has
been faithfully packing the
food for the drivers
who will deliver it."
.....

appreciation.
On May 31 the line was

forming outside as they waited for the food to arrive from a local high school. After a phone call it was discovered no food was coming as it was summer vacation. Fortunately our trusty Ed had taken all the left over food from Fr. Mark Brandl's party to St. Ben's earlier that day. That delivery plus a large pot of stew someone else had made fed over 400 people. Today they refer to that meal as the Miracle at St. Ben's.

Before Christmas our 11:00 o'clock music group goes along and plays Christmas Carols while the guests eat. Anyone is invited to dinner. This might be a chance for you to bring a donation such as a bag of fruit or a gallon of milk or whatever, and dine with St. Ben's guests and enjoy the music.

Ed says the people are so appreciative. They send many, many "blessings to the really good cooks from Menomonee Falls." Ed finds everyone he meets to be so thoughtful and nice.

Shari Rodriguez says, "Ed is just wonderful. He's so dedicated. He says this gives him a high for the week. Ed knows how important it is to be there. He never just drops off the food and leaves." No, it's not Ed "loafing around" at Good Shepherd.

Jesus said, "When I was hungry you gave me food." If you would like to feed the hungry you can call Shari at 262-255-2035. The rewards are great.



Ed Geiger



Meatloafs warm in the oven and await their trip to St. Ben's.



What is Swine Flu?

By Cheryl Matusiak, Pastoral Care Coordinator



Swine Influenza (swine flu) is a respiratory disease of pigs caused by type A influenza viruses that causes regular

outbreaks in pigs. People do not normally get swine flu, but human infections can and do happen. Swine flu viruses have been reported to spread from person-to-person, but in the past, this transmission was limited and not sustained beyond three people.

Is this swine flu virus contagious?

The Center for Disease Control has determined that this swine influenza A (H1N1) virus is contagious and is spreading from human to human. However, at this time, it is not known how easily the virus spreads between people.

How does swine flu spread?

Spread of this swine influenza A

(H1N1) virus is thought to spread in the same way as the seasonal flu virus. Flu viruses are spread mainly from person to person through coughing or sneezing of people with influenza. Sometimes a person may become infected by touching something with flu viruses on it and then touching their mouth or nose.

What can you do to help protect yourself?

- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it. If you don't have a tissue, cough into your elbow.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze. Alcohol-based hands cleaners are also effective.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs spread that way.
- Use disinfectants on frequently touched surfaces. Germs can also be



spread when a person touches an infected surface and then touches their own eyes, mouth or nose.

What are the symptoms?

Symptoms of swine flu include:

- Fever
- Headache
- Dry cough
- Sore throat
- Nasal congestion
- Body aches and/or tiredness
- In some cases, nausea and diarrhea.

YOUR GREEN CORNER

by Mary Kult

Facts About Leaf Burning

Backyard burning of leaves creates air pollution and is a health issue for people with asthma. It creates a fire hazard and wastes resources.

Composting on the other hand is useful as a soil amendment that improves the health and fertility of the soil. It adds nutrients to support soil microorganisms, improves clay soils, and saves water by helping soil hold moisture. Mulching leaves in place reduces raking time and amends the soil with organic matter and nutrients.

Backyard management of yard debris saves your city tax dollars making collection and processing unnecessary.

Another good use of composting is to dig a hole and bury recyclable garbage. Cover with soil and soon, with the help of some worms, you'll have made your own free amended soil.

Turning over a new leaf makes it easy to be green.



• **Addison Elizabeth Otto**
child of Christopher and Amy Otto

• **Dan Andrew Eesley**
child of Brad Eesley and Megan Ryddner.

Good Shepherd Catholic Church

BREAKING BREAD

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To further the spiritual growth of the Good Shepherd Community by providing an inspirational view of parish life.